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Animal Tales Told in the Gullah Dialect
by
Albert H. Stoddard of Savannah, Georgia
Edited by
Duncan Emrich



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ANIMAL TALES TOLD IN THE GULLAH DIALECT

BY ALBERT H. STODDARD

of Savannah, Georgia

EDITED BY DUNCAN EMRICH

LONG-PLAYING RECORD AAFS L44

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Mr. A. H. Stoddard of Savannah, Georgia, who tells these Gullah stories of "Buh Rabbit" and his friends, was born and brought up on Daufuskie Island off the South Carolina coast. His family, in the years preceding and following the Civil War, owned a plantation on the island, and young Stoddard grew up as a child with the Gullah Negroes and acquired their speech and manner of telling stories as naturally as any person acquires the language heard daily around him. Although at second hand, his telling of the tales is, therefore, authentic and as close to the original as it now seems possible to come. In a recorded interview at the Library of Congress in 1949, Mr. Stoddard says: "As a result of schooling and communication with the outside world, the Gullah dialect has changed greatly, and one can no longer hear it as I learned it as a youngster. The only exception to this is to get the very older Negroes excited—they then occasionally lapse into the old Gullah."

The notes which accompany this long-playing record and the two other long-playing records of Gullah stories supply background information and sources of study about the "Buh Rabbit" cycle and the Gullah dialect. Suffice it to say here that Buh Rabbit and his friends came to this country from Africa and the Old World, and that the Gullah dialect itself was the end result of the effort of the early slaves to acquire the speech of their masters. The isolation of the Carolina and Georgia coastal islands made possible both the creation and early preservation of the dialect. Fortunately for us, Mr. Stoddard realized, as he grew to manhood, the unique and valuable nature of the material which he had acquired as a youngster, and made conscious effort to preserve it. Fortunately also, we have in Mr. Stoddard a natural born story-teller, a person whose cadence, rhythm, and sense of timing in the telling of the tales is extraordinary.

* * *

This long-playing record is one of three which contain animal tales in the Gullah dialect by Mr. Stoddard. In addition to these records, the Library of Congress has issued numerous other records presenting selected items from its collections of folk music and folksong, including traditional folksongs of the United States, the music of the American Indian, and folksong and music from Latin America. Information concerning these records may be obtained by addressing the Recording Laboratory, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540.

SIDE A

- A1 HOW BUH HOUN GOT HIS LONG MOUTH
- A2 HOW BUH HOUN GIT E LONG TONGUE
- A3 HOW BUH WASP GETS HIS SMALL WAIST
- A4 HOW BUH BUZZUT LOST DE FEDDER ON E HEAD
- A5 HOW BUH TARRAPIN GIT E MA'KIN
- A6 B'ALLEGETTER SEES TROUBLE (HOW B'ALLEGETTER GIT E MA'KIN)

SIDE B

- B1 BUH RABBIT FOOLS B'OLIFAUM AND BUH WHALE
- B2 THE TAR BABY
- B3 SNEAK EEN E BUZZOM

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FOLKLORE OF THE UNITED STATES
Issued from the Folklore Collections
Long-Playing Record L44

ANIMAL TALES TOLD IN THE GULLAH DIALECT (I)
by Albert H. Stoddard of Savannah, Georgia

Edited by

Duncan Emrich

Preface

Albert H. Stoddard (1872 - 1954) was born and brought up on Daufuskie Island off the South Carolina coast. In the days preceding and following the Civil War, his family owned a plantation on the island where young Stoddard grew up as a child with the Gullah Negroes and acquired their speech and manner of telling stories as naturally as any person acquires the language heard daily around him. Although at second hand, his telling of the tales is, therefore, authentic and as close to the original as it now seems possible to come. In a recorded interview at the Library of Congress in 1949, Mr. Stoddard said: "As a result of schooling and communication with the outside world, the Gullah dialect has changed greatly, and one can no longer hear it as I learned it as a youngster. The only exception to this is to get the very older Negroes excited-- they then occasionally lapse into the old Gullah."

The word Gullah itself is generally presumed to be a shortening or corruption of Angola, and the Gullah dialect is one which flourished on the once-isolated coastal islands of South Carolina and Georgia. The very isolation of the islands made possible the preservation of the dialect and the creation of a unique folk culture unlike any other to be found in the South.

In general the Gullah dialect is a short cut to the use of the English language and represents the effort of the early slaves to acquire the language of their masters, often with the happiest results. Examples of this short-cutting are found in the use of "E" as a pronoun to stand for "he, she, him, her, and it," and also in the use of "shum" to stand for "see them, see him, see her, see it" and also for "saw them, saw him, saw her, and saw it." "E shum," for example, can



stand for "she saw it, he saw them," or any other combination of the words given. The personages and objects involved in the different stories determine the reading. When "Suh Partridge" (Sister Partridge) for example, appears in the last tale of the cycle (LP46 B7), the pronoun is "e" as always, and stands in her case for "she" just as it also stands within the same story for "he" as applied to "Buh Rabbit" (Brother Rabbit). Similarly the verb may also be short-cut, and a single form stand for both the present and the past, as "baig" stands either for "beg" or "begged."

The textual transcription of the stories in this pamphlet and in the pamphlets accompanying the other two long-playing records are by Mr. Stoddard. They represent his effort, in most respects highly accurate, to transcribe on paper the words of Gullah as he heard it. The glossary which appears in each pamphlet is also by him, and a reading of it is recommended as an aid to understanding the stories and for added pleasure in listening to them. Mr. Stoddard's transcription of the tales has been kept unchanged, since, for the student of linguistics, it may prove valuable for comparison with the transcriptions of others who have worked with the dialect.

Mr. Stoddard recorded his "Buh Rabbit" stories for the folklore collections of the Library in 1949. He was aware, before his death in 1954, that their issuance on long-playing records was planned, and it is greatly to be regretted that he could not have lived to see their release. To him we are indebted for his ready cooperation in the whole project, and for his generosity in initially making the stories available to the people of the United States through the recordings for the Library of Congress. It is most fortunate for us that Mr. Stoddard realized as he grew to manhood, the unique and valuable nature of the material which he had acquired as a youngster, and made a conscious effort to preserve it. Fortunately for us, also, we have in Mr. Stoddard a born story-teller, a person whose cadence, rhythm, and sense of timing in the telling of the tales is extraordinary.

In addition to its indebtedness to Mr. Stoddard, the Library of Congress wishes also to acknowledge the generous grant of funds from the Carnegie Corporation of New York which has made possible the issuance of these records.

Certain of the "Buh Rabbit" stories as told by Mr. Stoddard have also been related in print by Joel Chandler Harris in his Uncle Remus stories, although the versions differ markedly. These have been the subject of considerable study and the chief book on the subject is Stella Brewer Brookes' Joel Chandler Harris, Folklorist, (University of Georgia Press, 1950). The book has a full bibliography which lists the scholarly articles in the Journal of American Folklore and other publications tracing the original source of the "Buh Rabbit" tales to Africa, India and elsewhere in the world. The student of the subject should also consult the authoritative work on the folk-tale by Stith Thompson, The Folktale, (The Dryden Press, New York, 1946), and particularly the chapters dealing with the migration of tales.

The chief references for the study of the Gullah dialect and the folk culture of the South Carolina and Georgia coastal islands are:

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When Farrer (Father, God) fus bin mek Buh Houn e mout ain stan sukka (such as, like) yo shum (see it) stan now. E bin roun sukka e yie (eye), ondly e bin mo bigger.

Buh Rabbit bin een e rice fiel duh habes (harvest) e rice en de sun git berry hot en Buh Rabbit lef e fiel en gone up on de flood bank whey some bush dey en e set down on-neet one bush een de shade, en biggin fuh whistle.

Dem days Buh Rabbit en Buh Houn bin good frens. Buh Houn come long en yeddy (heard) Buh Rabbit duh whistle. E say Buh Rabbit uh wish uh could uh whistle lukka younna (like you).

Buh Rabbit tell um say e mout ain stan fuh whistle. "Roun mout ain fuh whistle. Ef yo had long mout lukka mine yo could uh whistle."

Buh Houn tell Buh Rabbit say e wish e had uh long mout en e could uh whistle.

Buh Rabbit tell Buh Houn say e could uh gie um long mout.

Buh Houn ax Buh Rabbit say ef e does gie um long mout es e gwine hut (hurt) um.

Buh Rabbit tell um say e ain hut um none tall when e git e long mout.

Buh Houn say, "Do, Buh Rabbit, gie me long mout en teach me fuh whistle."

Buh Rabbit had e reap hook wid um whey e bin uh cut rice with. E tell Buh Houn fuh hole e head high es e kin is, en e fuh shet e yie tight, en e fuh draw long bret.

Buh Houn hole e head high es e kin is en e shet e yie en e draw uh long bret. Buh Rabbit tek de reap hook een all two e hans en come down puntop (on top of) Buh Houn mout en cut um mos' back tuh e yays (ears).

When Buh Houn feel Buh Rabbit reap hook duh cut um e holler, "Wow."

E open e yie fuh see wuh Buh Rabbit duh do. E see Buh Rabbit duh stan dey duh laugh puntop um. E try fuh talk tuh Buh Rabbit but e mout hut um summuch tell all e could uh say duh, "Wow, Wow." E sta-a-t fuh go tuh Buh Rabbit en Buh Rabbit tink say e duh comin fuh hut um en e run off.

Buh Houn run at (after) Buh Rabbit en does try fuh talk tur um but all e could uh say duh, "Wow, Wow." Ebber sence dat when Buh Houn see Buh Rabbit e does run um en e holler, "Wow, Wow, Wow, Wow." En ebby time Buh Houn does hole e head high, lukka when e does look puntop de moon, e mek um membunce uh how Buh Rabbit reap hook hut um en e holler, "Wow-wow-wow-wow-ough-ough-o-o-o."

When Buh Houn bin fus mek wid e leetle mout roun sukka e yie e ain hads no nuse (use) fuh no long tongue, but at (after) Buh Rabbit mek um fuh ha long mout e does wa' long tongue wuh kin hang out e mout fuh ketch de ear (air) fuh cool um when e does hot.

E see Buh Fox en Buh Coon en nuf uh dem tarrer (other) creeter wuh kin hang dem tongue out dem mout, en ebby time e does shum (see them) e mek um mo en mo wa' long tongue.

B'Allegetter lib een de watuh en e don' hads no need fuh hang e tongue out fuh cool e self, en B'Allegetter ha long tongue whey kin come way out e mout.

One big dry drought come puntop de lan en all de watuh hole en ting dry up, en de hole befo B'Allegetter house dry up en ain lef no watuh fuh e go een.

B'Allegetter sta-a-t fuh go tuh one crick a distant fuhm e house whey watuh always does dey. When e does gwine e haffuh cross one big fiel en de sun dey berry hot, en when B'Allegetter come tuh one bushish e gone on'neet um een de shade fuh res e self, en e drop sleep.

Buh Houn come long en e see B'Allegetter dey-dey (there) duh sleep wid e tongue duh hang way out e mout, en e duh panch (pant) e bret.

Buh Houn creep up puntop B'Allegetter en ketch B'Allegetter tongue een e mout en bite um off close tuh B'Allegetter teet fo e wake up.

Buh Houn run off wid B'Allegetter tongue tell e git off uh safe distant, den e hole B'Allegetter tongue tuh him tongue tell dem done grow tuggedder. Ebber sence dat Buh Houn ha long tongue wuh kin hang way out e mout fuh ketch de ear, en B'Allegetter ha leetle shawt no 'count tongue wuh ca' come out e mout.

B'Allegetter always does wa' to git e tongue back en e leabe any ting else fuh go at Buh Houn een de hopes uh gitten e tongue back.

44 A3 HOW BUH WASP GETS HIS SMALL WAIST.

Een de fus off sta-a-tin Buh Was' wais ain bin leetle lukka how yo shum (see it) stan now. E bin big ez anybody wais. En de way Buh Was' come fuh git e leetle wais e bin uh walk long de road en e see Buh Skeeter duh hoe tutter (potato) een e fiel.

E tell um say, "Good mawnin, Buh Skeeter, how all uh younna?" Buh Skeeter gie um answer say, "We all duh mekkin out berry well, tank Gawd. How all uh younna?"

Buh Was' tell um say all uh dem dey dey (are there) tank Gawd.

Buh Was' lean e self on de fench (fence) en dem biggin talk. Buh Was' say, "Buh Skeeter, e look luk yo got uh berry fine crop uh tutter een yo fiel dis ear (year)."

Buh Skeeter tell um say, "Yeh, dis de bes crop uh tutter uh ebber raise een muh life. All duh good fine tutter."

Buh Was' tell um say da's fine fuh e ha sischa good tutter.

Buh Skeeter tell um say e ha good tutter fuh true, but ef e wa' see big tutter fuh true, e fuh go een e Pa fiel. Ebby one dem duh big fine tutter, ent uh leetle tutter dey een e whole Pa fiel.

Buh Was' ax Buh Skeeter how big de tutter dey een e Pa fiel.

Buh Skeeter bin bayfoot (barefoot) en e put e foot puntop de tutter hill en pull up e pantloon laig, en e tell Buh Was' say, "Buh Was', yo see muh laig yuh so?"

Buh Was' tell um say, Yeh, e shum.

Buh Skeeter tell um say, "Buh Was', ebby one de tutter een muh Pa fiel dis (just as) big ez muh laig yuh so. Ent uh leetle tutter dey een e Pa whole fiel."

Buh Was' look puntop (at) Buh Skeeter duh stan up dey so biggety duh show e leetle dry bone shank fuh show how big de tutter een e Pa fiel dey(is), en e tink say ef de tutter ain big mo'n uh

dat dey'd be uh powerful po chance uh doin enny eatin, en e bus out laff.

Buh Was' laff. E laff tell e side hut (hurt) um. E mash e han een e side fuh keep e side fuhm hut um. E roll all erbout on de groun duh laff. Ebby time e wa' stop laff e study (think) bout Buh Skeeter duh stan up dey so biggety duh show e leetle dry bone shank fuh show how big de tutter een e Pa file is, en e haf fuh bus out laff gen.

When Buh Was' bin able fuh stop laff, e had uh mash e wais een leetle lukka how yo shum stan now. En de cayjon fuh Buh Was' be so cross all de time. Buh Was' does wa' laff lukka some body, but Buh Was' faid say ef e ebber sta-a-t laff gen e duh gwine bruk e self een two, so e haf fuh keep e self cross fuh keep fuhm laff.

44 A4 HOW BUH BUZZUT LOST DE FEDDER ON E HEAD.

At (after) Buh Rabbit ride Buh Fox tuh de pa-aty (party) en do um so mean*, Buh Fox say ef e ebber could er git e han puntop Buh Rabbit e duh gwine kill um.

One day Buh Rabbit bin uh leddown (lie down) duh sleep en Buh Fox come long en shum (see him). E creep up puntop Buh Rabbit en befo e wake up Buh Fox done had um.

When Buh Rabbit wake up e say, "Good mawnin, Buh Fox, uh sho glad tuh see yo, uh ain see yo in long time."

Buh Fox tell um say him ain needer see Buh Rabbit long time, but e shum now.

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox, fuh wuffuh yo duh hold me now? Uh ain duh gwine run off, uh too glad fuh see yo."

Buh Fox tell Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Rabbit, uh done tell yo say ef uh ebber kin git muh han puntop yo, uh duh gwine kill yo, en uh duh gwine kill yo."

Dem gone on. Buh Fox duh hole Buh Rabbit. Turrecly Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox, how yo duh gwine kill me?"

Buh Fox tell um say e don' know how e duh gwine kill um.

*The story referred to is "Grandaddy Ridin Hoss" told on LP46 A3.

Buh Rabbit say, "Yo duh gwine cut me wid knife?" Buh Fox tell um say e dunno how e duh gwine do.

Buh Rabbit ax um gen say, "Buh Fox, yo duh gwine hang me wid rope?"

Buh Fox tell um say e ain know how e duh gwine kill um, but e duh gwine kill um.

Buh Rabbit say den, "Do, Buh Fox, yo gwine tide me wid chain en bun (burn) me duh fire?"

Buh Fox tell um say fuh shet e mout. E ain know how e duh gwine kill um, nummer (only) e duh gwine kill um.

Dem gone on en turrecly dem come tuh one holler tree. Time Buh Rabbit see de holler tree e holler say, "Duh dat yo duh gwine do tuh me, Buh Fox? Do, Buh Fox, do don' put me een da tree fuh dem sperrit fuh tarrify (terrify) me tuh det (death). Do, Buh Fox, tek me home en hang me wid rope, eider cut me wid knife, eider tide me wid chain en bun me duh fire, but do, Buh Fox, do don' put me een da tree fuh da sperrit fuh tarrify me."

When Buh Fox yeddy (heard) um baig so ha-a-d fuh e don' fuh put um een de tree, Buh Fox say tuh e self, da's de berry ting e duh gwine do tuh um.

Buh Fox tek Buh Rabbit en e chouck (put) um up een one leetle hole wuh bin between de root uh de tree, close tuh de groun. Den e stop en wait fuh see wuh de sperrit duh gwine do tuh Buh Rabbit, but all e yeddy (heard) duh Buh Rabbit duh laugh puntop um.

De hole bin too leetle fuh Buh Fox go een, en de holler bin too big fuh Buh Fox rech e ya-a-am (arm) een fuh ketch Buh Rabbit.

E bin uh stan dey duh study how e could er git Buh Rabbit en e see Buh Buzzut duh fly ober, en e holler say, "Buh Buzzut, come yuh."

Buh Buzzut come on de groun en e ax Buh Fox wuh e does wa'.

Buh Fox ax Buh Buzzut say is e ha tippety (antipathy) gen Buh Rabbit.

Buh Buzzut say, Yeh, him ha tippety gin um. Entty (wasn't it) Buh Rabbit set de wood fire en mos' bun up e house en all e chillun?

Den Buh Fox say, "Buh Buzzut, uh bin uh run Buh Rabbit fuh ketch um, en uh dis uh bin uh gwine put muh han puntop um e gone een dis-yuh hole en e scape way fuhm me. Nummer (except) e gone een da hole uh would uh ketch um.

"Buh Buzzut dis-yuh hole duh de ondly way fuh go een da tree, eeder fuh come out, en ef yo kin watch um en keep Buh Rabbit fuhm come out tell uh kin go home git muh ax, en uh kin mek de hole bigger so we kin git Buh Rabbit."

Buh Buzzut tell um say, Yeh, e'd mine um.

Buh Rabbit say, "Mine, Buh Buzzut, ef uh come back yuh en meet Buh Rabbit gone, yo duh de one uh duh gwine kill stid uh Buh Rabbit."

Buh Buzzut say, "Gullong man, go git yo ax. Buh Rabbit couldn' come out dey ef e bin tousan ear (year), long es uh diddy (am here) duh watch um.

Buh Fox gone off en time e git good out uh yuhin (hearing) Buh Rabbit holler say, "Buh Buzzut. Ooh, Buh Buzzut."

Buh Buzzut flap e wing lukka him duh comin on de groun, den e call, "Buh Rabbit, yo call me, whey yo dey (are)?"

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Buzzut, uh sho glad yo yeddy (heard) me en come. Uh know how yo lub squar'il en two uh de bigges fattes squar'il uh ebber see een muh life dey een dis-yer tree. Watch, Buh Buzzut, uh'l run um out so yo kin ketch um."

Buh Buzzut say, "All right, Buh Rabbit, run um out."

Buh Rabbit knock on de een side de tree. Bim, bam. Bim bam. Bim bam. Turrecly e holler say, "Run roun tarrer (other) side, Buh Buzzut. E duh gwine out. E duh gwine out."

Buh Buzzut run roun say fuh ketch de squar'il, en Buh Rabbit come out de tree en gone.

Right now Buh Fox come back wid e ax, en e ax Buh Buzzut say, "E dey dey (is there), Buh Buzzut?"

Buh Buzzut tell Buh Fox say, "Yo know say Buh Rabbit couldn' come out da tree while uh dey (am) yuh."

Buh Fox tek e ax en sta-a-t fuh cut fuh mek de hole bigger. Buh Buzzut dey behime um duh kine-uh dance. Fus on one foot den on tarrer en e keep duh say, "We got um now, Buh Fox, e ka' git way. We got um now."

Buh Fox git kine uh spicion (suspicious) en e see Buh Buzzut look lukka e wa' laff. So e tell Buh Buzzut say, "Come yuh, Buh Buzzut. Run yo head een de hole see wis side Buh Rabbit dey so uh kin cut da side en don' haffuh cut summuch."

Buh Buzzut come leetle closter. Buh Fox say, "Run yo head een de hole en see wis side Buh Rabbit dey. E ain duh gwine hut yo."

Buh Buzzut come leetle closter.

Buh Fox say, "Mek (why) yo so faid Buh Rabbit, Buh Buzzut?"

Buh Buzzut say, "Me faid Buh Rabbit? Buh Rabbit ain nuttin fuh me faid of."

Buh Fox tell um say e is faid Buh Rabbit. Den Buh Buzzut shub e head out luk e duh gwine look een de hole en Buh Fox drop e ax en mek uh grab fuh Buh Buzzut.

Buh Buzzut jump back en all Buh Fox could'er ketch duh Buh Buzzut neck.

Dey had de bigges fightin roun dey. Buh Buzzut duh try fuh git way en Buh Fox duh try fuh hole um. Dey tay up mos a tas* uh groun.

Bum by Buh Buzzut git all two e foots een Buh Fox ches en e shub e self loose, but fuh git loose e lef ebby bit de skin en fedder on e head en neck een Buh Fox hans. En tell yet Buh Buzzut head en neck all bloody up en don' had no skin en fedder on um.

44 A5 HOW BUH TARRAPIN GIT E MA'KIN (MARKING).

Fus off Buh Tarrapin shell bin all smood en white sukka (like a) hen aig, en de way e come fuh git e back shell all ma'k up e try fuh do suppin e ain hads no binnis fuh do.

One time Farrer (God) ax all de bud (birds) dem wuh ha wing en kin fly fuh come up een Hebben tuh one pa-a-ty (party) e bin uh gwine gie.

Buh Tarrapin bin een de ma-a-sh (marsh) en e yeddy Farrer when e ax Buh Crow en Buh Ma-a-sh-eeen (Marsh hen) en all dem wuh duh lib een de ma-a-sh.

Buh Tarrapin wa' go Hebben so bad fuh see how e stan (it looks) but e ain hads no wing fuh tek um dey so e gone ax all de bud wuh come een de ma-a-sh fuh tek um dey when dem duh gwine.

*Tas: Task, one fourth acre or a day's task.

E fus gone tuh Buh Crane en tell um say, "Buh Crane, yo big en strong. When yo duh gwine up een Hebben tek me up een yo foots en tek me dey wid yo. Uh sho wa' see how Hebben stan fo uh dead en tuh dance one dance wid dem angil."

Buh Crane tell um say Farrer ain bin ax um fuh come up een de fus place, en e dey (it is) too fur uh distant fuh him fuh tote um dey.

Buh Tarrapin ax all de bud dem wuh e does see, en all tell um e ain duh gwine tek um up een no Hebben. E ax Buh Black Bud.

"Buh Black Bud, whole gang uh younna (you, pl.) duh gwine up een Hebben. Nuf uh younna kin git roun me fuh tek me up, en when dem tire some de yedder res kin tek dem place."

Buh Black Bud tell um say e ain bin duh gwine tek um up een no Hebben.

One day Buh Crow come een de ma-a-sh fuh ketch fish en Buh Tarrapin ax um, "Do, Buh Crow, when yo gwine Hebben tek me up een yo foots en tek me dey." Buh Crow know say e ain bin uh gwine tek Buh Tarrapin een no Hebben, but e so lub fuh jooks (joke) people tell e tell Buh Tarrapin, "Yeh, Yeh, Yeh."

De mawnin dem bin fuh go, Buh Crow come tuh Buh Tarrapin house soon een de mawnin, en call Buh Tarrapin. Buh Tarrapin come out wid e shell all smood en white, en Buh Crow hook e foots on'neet Buh Tarrapin shell en e tek um up een de ear (air).

When dey git up good leetle piece Buh Crow say, "Uh hope muh foots don' slip dey hole (their hold), Buh Tarrapin."

Buh Tarrapin say, "Do, Buh Crow, ef yo foots gwine slip dey hole, tek me put me back on de groun fo yo drop me fuhm way up yuh."

Buh Crow tell um say e tink e kin mek um, en e keep duh gwine up.

Buh Crow git way up een de ear (air) en e sort uh loose one e foots easy, en e holler, "Buh Tarrapin, uh duh lose muh hole. Wuh uh fuh do?"

Fo Buh Tarrapin kin say enny ting, Buh Crow open one e foots en Buh Tarrapin sta-a-t fuh fall en duh tun ober en ober.

Buh Crow mek darsh (dart) at um, en duh holler, "Stop tun ober, Buh Tarrapin, so uh kin ketch yo." Buh Crow know say Buh Tarrapin ain bin able fuh stop tun ober, but e keep duh mek darsh at um luk e duh try fuh ketch um.

Turrecly Buh Tarrapin come flat on e back een de ma-a-sh - - -
SPACHOW.

When Buh Crow see Buh Tarrapin dey een de ma-a-sh flat on e back
e fly off en laugh, "Haw, Haw, Haw."

Buh Tarrapin bin dat deep een de ma-a-sh tell e mos' couldn' git
out, but attuh e fight dey long time e git out en gone home.

At e done wash off e shell e come fuh fine out e fall so ha-a-d
tell de ma-a-sh mud done gone een e shell en mek um yallerish, en
whey e shell all done crack up de mud gone so deep tell e mos' black.

Fuhm den tell now Buh Tarrapin all ha dem same ma'kin.

44 A6

B'ALLEGETTER SEES TROUBLE.
(HOW B'ALLEGETTER GIT E MA'KIN)

B'Allegetter lib een de watuh whey nuf uh fish dey fuh e eat en
e don' does haffuh wuk fuh e libbin, en e nebber meet up wid trouble.

Buh Rabbit lib on de lan en e meet up wid nuf uh trouble.

One time Buh Rabbit bin uh projec* on de crick sho whey
B'Allegetter house dey, and Buh Rabbit meet B'Allegetter duh set on
e poach en e tell um say, "Good mawnin, B'Allegetter, how all uh
younna."

B'Allegetter tell um say all duh gittin on berry well, en e ax
Buh Rabbit how all uh dem tuh him house.

Buh Rabbit tell um say dey all duh mekin out, "But summuch uh
trouble, B'Allegetter. Summuch uh trouble."

B'Allegetter ax Buh Rabbit wuh duh trouble. How e stan (looks)?

Buh Rabbit ax B'Allegetter say, "B'Allegetter, yo ain nebber see
trouble? Uh kin show you trouble."

B'Allegetter tell Buh Rabbit say him would uh like fuh see
trouble fuh see how e stan. Buh Rabbit tell um say ef e would meet
um een de broom sage fiel nex mawnin time de sun done dry de jew (dew)

*Projec: light hearted wandering, often connoting mischievous intent.

off de grass good, e would showed um trouble.

Nex mawnin time de sun bin git hot, B'Allegetter tek e hat en
sta-a-t fuh lef de house. When S'Allegetter (Sister or Mrs. Alleg-
etter) shum (saw him) duh gwine e (she) ax um whey e (he) duh gwine.
E tell S'Allegetter say him duh gwine fuh meet Buh Rabbit fuh him
fuh show um how trouble stan.

S'Allegetter tell um say ef him duh gwine see trouble, him
(she) duh gwine too. B'Allegetter tell um say, "Shet yo mout, gal.
Yo ain duh gwine no whey. Yo bes fuh lemme go see how trouble stan
fus. Den uh kin show yo."

S'Allegetter qua'il (quarrel) en tell B'Allegetter ef him duh
gwine, him duh gwine too. All de leetle allegetter yeddy (heard)
dem duh qua'il en all uh dem holler say, "Ef younna duh gwine us
duh gwine too. Ef younna duh gwine uh duh gwine too."

Dem all mek summuch uh racket tell B'Allegetter git tire fuh
yeddy (hear) dem en e tell dem all fuh shet dem mout en come on den.

Dey all gone cross dem ma-a-sh en time dem git een de broom
sage fiel dem meet Buh Rabbit duh set puntop one stump duh wait fuh
dem.

Dem all tell Buh Rabbit good mawnin en de leetle allegetter mek
dem curtschey (curtsy).

At Buh Rabbit done tell dem all good mawnin, e ax B'Allegetter
say, "Younna all come fuh see trouble dis mawnin, entty?"

B'Allegetter tell um say, Yeh, when him bin uh gwine leff de
house dis mawnin dem all baig fuh come, en dem all mek summuch uh
racket tell fuh sabe e yays (ears) e haffuh le' dem come too.

Buh Rabbit tell dem stan out een de middle uh de fiel en tell
dem fuh wait dey en him would go git trouble en bring um.

Buh Rabbit gone on de aig (edge) uh de fiel en e cut uh han uh
broom sage en e put fire tuh um en e run um roun en roun de fiel so
de fire dey roun en roun de fiel.

Turrecly S'Allegetter see de fire duh jumpin up red en de smoke
duh gwine up, en e say, "B'Allegetter, wuh da yonder?" Dem lib een
de ribber en de wet ma-a-sh, en ain nebber see fire.

B'Allegetter tell um say e dunno whu duh him.

S'Allegetter say, "Uh tink da's trouble Buh Rabbit duh bring
fuh show we."

All de leetle allegetter jump up en down en holler, "Ain strubles pooty, ma? Ain strubles pooty?"

Turrecly de fire hot git close, en de smoke git bad en dem tek out fuh one side de fiel. Dey meet de fire. Dey tun roun gone tarrer side. Dey meet de fire.

De fire git so close e feel luk e duh gwine bun (burn) dem.

Dey all shet dem yie (eye) en trowed dem head close tuh de groun en bus troo de fire en ain nebber stop tell B'Allegetter gone SPASHOW een de crick. Right behine um S'Allegetter SPASHOW een de crick. All de leetle allegetter come, Shu, shu, shu, shu, shu, shu een de crick.

When dem duh comin out de fiel Buh Rabbit bin uh set puntop one stump en e holler, "Yo done see trouble now B'Allegetter, you done see trouble."

De fire ain bin git tuh de belly pa-a-t (part) wuh bin nex tuh de groun, en e yet white. But all dem back done bun tell e black en ridgy lukka how yo shum stan tell yet.

44 B1

BUH RABBIT FOOLS B'OLIFAUM AND BUH WHALE.

(NOTE: An Elephant to the Gulla Negroes was an "Olifaum." Therefore, Buh, or brother, elephant was shortened to "B'Olifaum.")

One time Buh Rabbit bin uh walk bout bin uh pledger e self (walking for pleasure) en e meet up wid B'Olifaum duh leddown (lie down) een e bed duh sleep. Buh Rabbit tell um say, "Good mawnin, B'Olifaum."

B'Olifaum gie um answer say, "Good mawnin, Buh Rabbit."

Buh Rabbit den say, "Greyshish, B'Olifaum, yo sho duh one able (big) man. Yo big mo when yo duh leddown den when yo duh stan up."

B'Olifaum tell um say, "Yeh, Buh Rabbit, uh duh de bigges ting on de yut (earth)."

Buh Rabbit say, "B'Olifaum, yo know one ting?"

B'Olifaum tell um say, "No, wuh duh him?"

Buh Rabbit say, "B'Olifaum, big es yo is, en lettle es uh is, uh bet uh could pull yo out yo bed."

B'Olifaum say, "Wuh kine uh talk dat yo duh talk Buh Rabbit? Gullong fuhm yuh, go lemme lone."

Buh Rabbit tell B'Olifaum say, "B'Olifaum, ef uh dey (were) nigh'st yo fuh yo bigness fuh skayed (scared) me, uh couldn' pull yo out yo bed fuh true. But ef yo lemme tide (tie) one rope tuh yo en git back een de bresh whey uh couldn' see yo fuh yo bigness fuh skayed me, uh bet uh hundud dolluh uh could pull yo out yo bed."

B'Olifaum say, "Do, Buh Rabbit, gullong fuhm yuh, go lemme lone. Uh bin tuh one dance las night en uh dance de minimit (minuet) tell day clean. Uh come yuh fuh leddown fuh ketch some sleep en yo haffuh come yuh bodderation me bout pull me out muh bed. Yo couldn' moobe one uh muh yays (ears)."

Buh Rabbit den tell B'Olifaum say e's faid fuh bet um.

B'Olifaum tell um gen say, "Fuh do fuh gullong en le' me sleep."

Buh Rabbit pester B'Olifaum, en e pester B'Olifaum, tell fuh git rid ur um, B'Olifaum bet um hundud dolluh say e couldn' pull um out e bed.

Buh Rabbit gone on de ribber sho (shore) whey e see Buh Whale duh swim duh ribber, en e holler say, "Good mawnin, Buh Whale."

Buh Whale tell um say, "Good mawnin, Buh Rabbit."

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Whale, whey yo bin, uh ain see yo in long time."

Buh Whale tell um say sence e done shum (see him) las e done bin clean roun de yut.

Buh Rabbit say, "Greyshish, Buh Whale, yo sho grow tuh be one able man."

Buh Whale tell um say, Yeh, him duh de bigges ting een de ribber.

Buh Rabbit den say, "Buh Whale, yo know one ting?"

Buh Whale tell um say, "No, wuh duh him?"

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Whale, leetle es uh is, en big es yo is, uh bet uh could uh pull yo out da ribber."

Buh Whale say, "Gullong, Buh Rabbit. Wha kine uh talk da yo duh talk, you couldn' moobe me een de ribber scusin (let alone) fuh pull me out."

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Whale, ef uh deddy (there) on de ribber sho fuh see yo bigness when yo duh comin out de watuh fuh yo bigness fuh skayed me, uh couldn' pull yo out de ribber fuh true. But ef yo lemme tide one rope tuh yo so uh kin go back on de hill whey uh couldn' see yo when yo duh comin out de watuh fuh yo bigness fuh skayed me, uh bet yo hundud dolluh uh kin pull yo out da ribber."

Buh Whale say e bin uh wa' see wuh Buh Rabbit duh gwine do, so e bet um de hundud dolluh say e couldn' pull um out de ribber.

Buh Rabbit gone den en e git one long rope en e tek one een (end) en e tide um tuh B'Olifaum. Den e tek tarrer (the other) een en e tide um tuh Buh Whale.

Buh Rabbit tell dem all two say when dem feel him biggin pull, dem mus pull. Den e gone een de middle uh de rope en e tek um een all two e hans, en e pull fuhm all two eens one time.

B'Olifaum bin uh leddown een e bed bin uh sleep, en e ain bin ha Buh Rabbit een de back pa-a-t (part) e head, but Buh Whale bin uh wait duh ribber fuh see wuh Buh Rabbit duh gwine do.

When Buh Whale feel Buh Rabbit mek e pull, e mek uh big juk (jerk).

De fus ting B'Olifaum konw e done juk out e bed en duh gwine sumbleset down de hill fuh de ribber, en e don' kin git on e foots.

When e does kin git on e foots e ain able fuh stop e'self fuh gwine tuh de ribber. All B'Olifaum could uh pull, e dis keep duh gwine tuh de ribber.

Nummer (except) e see two tree duh grow on de ribber sho' en e gone gone brace e'self gen dem tree, Buh Whale would uh pull um een de ribber en drownded um.

All Buh Whale pull e couldn' pull B'Olifaum en de tree, en bum by e git tire. E gie slack back on de rope en B'Olifaum tek de slack en gone back up on de hill en e pull Buh Whale clean out de ribber.

Nummer fuh de straight lif (lip, edge) uh de bank, B'Olifaum would uh pull um on de high hill, but all B'Olifaum pull e couldn' pull Buh Whale ober de straight lif uh de bank.

Turrecly B'Olifaum git tire en e gie slack back on de rope, en Buh Whale mek uh juk en e gone back een de ribber en pull B'Olifaum back tuh dem same two tree gen, en ef B'Olifaum ain gone gone brace e'self gen (against) dem tree gen Buh Whale would uh pull um een de ribber en drownded um gen.

Bum by Buh Whale git tire en e gan gen duh try fuh pull B'Olifaum en de tree all two, en e gie slack back, en B'Olifaum tek de slack en e gone back up on de hill. When e gone back up on de hill Buh Rabbit cut de rope.

When Buh Rabbit cut de rope e gone whey B'Olifaum dey en e tell um say, "B'Olifaum, how yo tell me say uh couldn' pull yo out yo bed? Nummer uh ain bin wa' hut (hurt) yo, uh would uh pulled yo down da hill en trowed yo ober muh head een de ribber. But den uh would uh had tuh pulled yo out gen."

B'Olifaum bin berry bex (vexed) en e tell Buh Rabbit say, "Gullong fuhm yuh, go lemme lone."

Buh Rabbit say, "B'Olifaum, yo bes pay me dem hundud dolluh yo bet me fo' uh juk yo up out dat bed en trowed yo een da ribber en drownded yo fuh true."

B'Olifaum run e han een e pawkit en pull out hundud dolluh en gie um tuh Buh Rabbit.

Buh Rabbit den gone tuh de ribber sho' whey Buh Whale duh wait fuh see wuh Buh Rabbit haffuh say fuh e self.

When Buh Rabbit see Buh Whale e say, "Hey, Buh Whale, how yo tell

hut yo uh'd uh pull'd yo on de high hill, but den uh would uh had tuh growed yo back gen."

Buh Whale say, "Greyshish, Buh Rabbit, yo sho duh one able leetle man, ef uh bin able lukka yo, en big lukka how uh is, uh could moobe de yut."

Buh Whale run e han een e pawkit en pull out hundud dolluh en gie um tuh Buh Rabbit, en Buh Rabbit tek de money en e gone wid um.

44B2

THE TAR BABY.

One big dry drought bin puntop (on) de lan, en all de watuh hole en cow track dem dry up en de creeter ain hads no watuh fuh dem drink.

Buh Rabbit en Buh Fox bin lib kine uh close turgedder en Buh Rabbit tell Buh Fox say, "Les we dig one well turgedder twix we house, den all two uh we kin nuse (use) um bidout haffuh walk too fur."

Buh Fox gree tuh dat, en Buh Rabbit tell um say, "Buh Fox, e's berry hot middle day now, les we meet dey fus day (daybreak) een de mawnin, en time day clean we kin sta-a-t wuk, en mebbu puhaps we kin git um done befo e git too hot." En Buh Fox gree tuh dat, too.

Fo day een de mawnin Buh Fox bin tuh de place. E ain see Buh Rabbit. Time e could uh see fuh wuk e sta-a-t fuh dig. Sun done up, e yet ain see Buh Rabbit.

Buh Fox git tuh good watuh, en e come out de well duh lebble (to level) de groun roun de well, yuh come Buh Rabbit.

"Oh, Buh Fox, uh so sorry yo didn' wait fuh me fo yo sta-a-t. Muh ole ooman bin ha de feeber en de head ache all de Gawd sen night. Fo day uh baig um fuh do lemme run out yuh tell yo say don' does dig de well, but e keep duh tell me e duh gwine dead, en do fuh don' le'm stay fuh dead by e self. E dis now drop sleep, en uh run hope yo bin uh wait fuh me."

Buh Rabbit den ax Buh Fox is e got watuh. Buh Fox tell um say yeh e gots good watuh.

Buh Rabbit den say, "Buh Fox, uh so sorry yo had uh dig de well by yo self, but at uh diddy (since I'm here) en yo gots watuh, uh'l tek some back een dis yuh can tuh muh ole ooman fuh cool um een e feeber."

Buh Fox tell Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Rabbit, yo wouldn' hep me dig

dis yuh well, yo ain fuh tek no watuh out um. Ef yo wa' watuh, go dig yo own well."

Buh Rabbit say, "Do, Buh Fox, yo ain duh gwine hinduh me fuh tek leetle uh dis yuh watuh tuh muh ole ooman wuh bin ha de feeber all night."

Buh Fox tell um gen say e ain fuh tetch de watuh een de well. En e tell um mo'ober gen, ef e ketch um duh teef (thief) de watuh e duh gwine kill um.

Ebby mawnin fo day Buh Rabbit does go tuh Buh Fox well en e tek all de watuh, en when Buh Fox come dey soon duh mawnin fuh git watuh e ain meet no watuh een de well. But e see Buh Rabbit track dey roun bout de well.

Buh Fox git some ta (tar), en e mek uh gal out de p'yo (pure) ta en set um up tuh de well.

Buh Rabbit come dey fo day een de mawnin fuh teef watuh en e see de gal duh set by de well. E tell um say, "Good mawnin, gal." De gal ain gie um no ansuh. Buh Rabbit ax de gal mek (why) e (she) don' talk tuh people when dey tell um good mawnin. De gal ain yet gie um no ansuh.

Buh Rabbit say, "Gal, ef yo don' tell me good mawnin uh duh gwine slap yo head off." De gal ain yet say nuttin. Buh Rabbit haul off en slap um, POW. E han fasen. E say, "Gal, yo bes tun me loose fo uh slap yo wid de yedder han." De gal ain tun um loose en e slap um wid de - - POW. De yedder han fasen.

Buh Rabbit say, "Gal, uh ain duh play now. Ef uh ebber kick yo uh'l bruk yo laig off." E kick um en e foot fasen; e kick um wid tarrer foot, de foot fasen. E knee um, e knee fasen.

Buh Rabbit say, "Gal, uh done play wid yo now fuh de las, ef uh ebber butt yo uh'l bus yo brains wide open." E haul back e head en butt um, BIM. E head fasen.

E dey (is) dey (there) now all fasen up to de gal. When Buh Fox come tuh de well, time Buh Rabbit shum (see him) duh e holler say, "Buh Fox, uh yeddy (heard) say yo had uh cuse (accused) me fuh come yuh teef yo watuh, en uh come yuh fo day een de mawnin en meet dis yuh gal duh teef yo watuh. See de bucket wuh e bring fuh teef de watuh een, en uh run yuh ketch um en duh hole um tell (until) yo come."

Buh Fox come dey en loose Buh Rabbit en tek um duh gwine (along). Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox, fuh whuffuh yo duh hole me, mek yo don' tun me loose so we kin walk turgedder?"

Buh Fox tell Buh Rabbit say, e had uh tell um say ef e teef e watuh e duh gwine kill um, en e say e duh gwine kill um.

Dem duh gwine on en Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox?" Buh Fox anser um e say, "Eh?" Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox, how yo duh gwine kill me, yo gwine hang me wid rope?" Buh Fox tell um say e dunno how e duh gwine kill um, nummer (except, only) e duh gwine kill um.

Buh Rabbit ax Buh Fox is e duh gwine cut um wid knife? Buh Fox tell um e ain know wuh e duh gwine do.

Buh Rabbit say, "Buh Fox, yo gone tide (tie) me wid chain en bun (burn) me duh fiah?" Buh Fox tell um say, "Fuh Gawd sake, Buh Rabbit, uh done tell yo say uh dunno how uh duh gwine kill yo, uh dis duh gwine kill yo."

Dem duh gwine on en turrecly dem come tuh one big ole briar patch. Time Buh Rabbit see de briar patch e holler, "Oh Lordy, Buh Fox, duh dat yo duh gwine do wid me? Do Buh Fox, do don' trow me een da briar patch fuh dem sperrit fuh tarrify (terrify) me tuh det. Tek me home, Buh Fox, en hang me wid rope, eeder cut me wid knife, eeder tide me wid chain en bun me by fiah. But do, Buh Fox, do don' trow me een da briar patch fuh dem sperrit fuh tarrify me tuh det."

When Buh Fox yeddy Buh Rabbit duh baig so ha-a-d fuh e don' trowed um een de briar patch e say da's de berry ting e duh gwine do tur um.

E tek Buh Rabbit en e swing um, en e swing um. E turn um loose. Buh Rabbit gone way yonder out een de briar patch.

E light, BIM. E jump up on e foots en run off. Quing, quing, quing, quing. "Dis de berry place uh bawn, Buh Fox. Dis de berry place uh bawn."

44 B3

SNEAK EEN E BUZZOM (BOSOM).

E bin een de wintuh time en e bin berry cole. One man bin uh trablin, en e lef whey e stop da night befo day een de mawnin. E ain gone no whey tell e meet up wid Buh Sneak duh leddown (lay down) puntop (on) de groun bin mos' freeze tuh det.

De man ax Buh Sneak say, "Buh Sneak, yo mos' freeze tuh det, entty (isn't it so)?"

Buh Sneak gie um answer, e say, yeh e done mos' freeze tuh det.

De man ax Buh Sneak say, "Buh Sneak, ef uh tek yo up en put yo een muh buzzom en wahn (warm) yo back tuh life yo'd bite me."

Buh Sneak tell de man say how e could uh bite um at (after) e done sabe (save) e life.

At Buh Sneak tell de man dat, de man tek up Buh Sneak en put um een e buzzom en fasen up e coat ober um en gone on.

Turrecly when de sun done up good en de fros done gone off de grass, en e git wahn, Buh Sneak biggin fuh moobe roun een de man buzzom.

De man ax Buh Sneak is e done wahn? Buh Sneak tell um say, yeh, e done wahn. De man den tell um say at e done wahn en de sun dey (is) wahn too, e duh gwine put um down en le' um go home.

Buh Sneak tell de man say e en-fer (ain't for) tek um out e buzzom scusin (unless) e bite um.

De man ax Buh Sneak how e fuh bite um at e ax um ef e tek um up en wahn um back tuh life e wouldn' bite um, en e tell um say how e could uh bite um at e done sabe e life.

Buh Sneak tell de man say e dunk-yer (don't care) wuh e tell um. Ef e try fuh git um out e buzzom e duh gwine bite um. En e duh gwine bite um any how fo' sun down.

De man duh gwine on duh study how e duh gwine do fuh git Buh Sneak out e buzzom.

Turrecly Buh Sneak say, "Buh Man?" De man gie um answer, e say, "Eh?" Buh Sneak say, "Buh Man, es yo duh gwine on yo gwine meet up wid Buh Deer, en yo duh gwine meet up wid Buh Fox, en you duh gwine meet up wid Buh Rabbit. Out de tree un um, ef two un um stinctially say uh ain fuh bite yo, uh wouldn' bite yo. Outside uh dat, uh duh gwine bite yo fo sun down."

De man keep on duh walk en turrecly e meet up wid Buh Deer.

E tell Buh Deer say, "Good mawnin, Buh Deer." Buh Deer gie um answer say, "Good mawnin, Buh Man." De man den say, "Buh Deer?" Buh Deer gie um answer, e say, "Eh?" De man say, "Buh Deer, uh bin uh gwine long fo day dis mawnin en uh meet up wid Buh Sneak duh leddown on de groun bin mos' freeze tuh det. Uh tell Buh Sneak say, 'Buh Sneak, yo done mos' freeze tuh det, entty?' Buh Sneak gie me answer, e say, Yeh, e done mos' freeze tuh det.

"Uh ax Buh Sneak say, 'Buh Sneak, ef uh tek yo up en wahm yo back tuh life een muh buzzom yo would bite me.' Buh Sneak gie me answer say how e could uh bite me attuh uh done sabe e life.

"Uh tek up Buh Sneak en put um een muh buzzom en wahm um back tuh life. Now uh does wa' put um down en e tell me say uh en-fer tek um out muh buzzom scusin e bite me. En e tell me gen say e duh gwine bite me any how fo sundown."

Buh Deer ax Buh Sneak say, "Yo tell de man say yo ain bin uh gwine bite um?" Buh Sneak tell Buh Deer say, "Uh ain nebber tell um no sech uh ting."

Buh Deer tell Buh Sneak say, "Buh Sneak, e ain right fuh bite um at e done sabe yo life." En e gone on.

Turrecly de man meet up wid Buh Fox. E tell Buh Fox say, "Good mawnin, Buh Fox." Buh Fox tell um say, "Good mawnin, Buh Man."

De man say, "Buh Fox", e say, "uh duh gwine long fo day dis mawnin en uh meet up wid Buh Sneak duh leddown on de groun done mos' freeze tuh det. Uh ax Buh Sneak say, 'Ef uh was tuh tek yo up en put yo een muh buzzom en wahm yo back tuh life yo'd bite me?' Buh Sneak tell me say, no, how e could uh bite me attuh uh done sabe e life. Uh tek up Buh Sneak en wahm um back tuh life, en when uh done wahm em back to life uh wa' fuh put um down, e tell me say uh en-fer tek um out muh buzzom scusin e bite me. E say e duh gwine bite me anyhow fo sundown."

Buh Fox ax Buh Sneak is e tell de man say e ain bin uh gwine bite um? Buh Sneak tell Buh Fox say e ain nebber tell um no such a ting, e ain gwine bite um.

Buh Fox tell Buh Sneak say, "Buh Sneak, e ain right fuh bite um at e done sabe yo life." En him gone on.

Two un um done gone en ain none say Buh Sneak en-fer bite um, e dis (just) say e ain right fuh bite um.

De man walk on duh study how e duh gwine do fuh git Buh Sneak out e buzzom bidout e bite um. Turrecly e meet up wid Buh Rabbit.

E tell Buh Rabbit say, "Good mawnin, Buh Rabbit." Buh Rabbit gie um answer say, "Good mawnin, Buh Man."

De man say, "Buh Rabbit?" Buh Rabbit answer um e say, "Eh?"

De man say, "Buh Rabbit", e say, "dis mawnin fo day uh bin uh comin long en uh meet up wid Buh Sneak duh leddown puntop de groun bin mos' freeze tuh det. Uh tell Buh Sneak say, 'Buh Sneak?' Buh Sneak gie me answer e say, 'Eh?' Uh say, 'Buh Sneak, yo done mos'

done freeze tuh det, entty?' Buh Sneak tell me say, yeh e mos' freeze tuh det.

"Uh tell Buh Sneak say, 'Buh Sneak ef uh tek yo up en wahm yo back tuh life een muh buzzom yo'd bite me.'

"Buh Sneak tell me say how e could uh bite me at uh done sabe e life. U tek up Buh Sneak en uh put um een muh buzzom en wahm um back tuh life. When Buh Sneak done wahm en uh does wa' put um down e could go back home, Buh Sneak tell me say ef uh try fuh tek um out muh buzzom e duh gwine bite me. E tell me mo-ober (moreover) gen, say e duh gwine bite me anyhow fo sun down."

Buh Rabbit ax Buh Sneak is e tell de man say e wouldn' bite um ef e tek um up en wahm um back tuh life.

Buh Sneak tell um say yeh e tell um dat. "Bu wuh cayjun (occasion) tuh dat? E couldn' git me out e buzzom scusin uh bite um."

Buh Rabbit ax de man say, "Buh Man, whey yo meet up wid Buh Sneak?" De man tell um say e's uh fur distant back. E tell um say e meet um fo day dis mawnin en e bin uh walk steady, en e ain stop fuh nuttin en e done mos' middle day now.

Buh Rabbit ax de man is e nwillin (willing) fuh go back whey e fus meet Buh Sneak. De man tell um say e's nwillin fuh do anyting fuh sabe e life.

Dem tun (turn) en dey walk, en dey walk tell de sun dey (is) mos' ready fuh down. De man stop en e say, "Dis de place." Buh Rabbit ax um say, "Dis de place yo meet Buh Sneak?" De man tell um say, "Yeh, dis duh de berry place."

Buh Rabbit ax de man whey e bin uh stan when e tell Buh Sneak say e would uh tek um up en wahm um back ef e wouldn' bite um.

De man tell um say, "Uh bin uh stan ober yonder."

Buh Rabbit tell de man fuh go stan e self dis dizacly lukka how e bin uh stan when e tell Buh Sneak say e would uh tek um up en put um een e buzzom ef e wouldn' bite um.

De man gone stan dis dizacly how e bin uh stan. Buh Rabbit ax um duh so e bin uh stan? De man tell um say, Yeh, duh so e bin uh stan.

Buh Rabbit ax Buh Sneak whey him bin uh lay when de man tell um say e would uh tek um up en put um een e buzzom ef e wouldn' bite um.

Buh Sneak tell Buh Rabbit say e bin uh lay ober yonder. E head bin dis side, e tail bin tarrer (the other) side.

Buh Rabbit tell Buh Sneak say, "No, Buh Sneak, no. De man done gone fix e self dis dizacly lukka how e bin uh fix when e tell yo say e would uh tek yo up en wahm yo back tuh life ef yo wouldn' bite um. Now yo go go fix yo'self dis dizacly lukka how yo bin uh fix when de man tell yo dat."

Buh Sneak come out de man buzzom en gone lay e self on de groun.

Buh Rabbit ax um duh so e bin uh lay? Buh Sneak tell um say, yeh, duh so e bin uh lay.

Buh Rabbit tell de man say, "Buh Man, yo see Buh Sneak done come out yo buzzom en e ain bite yo. Gullong now en ten (tend) tuh yo own binnis en don' bodderation wid Buh Sneak en yo wouldn' nebber git bite."

GLOSSARY

Able: Big (rarely strong)
Abnoo: Avenue
Acknowledge: Knowledge
Aidge: Edge
Ain(Ent): Ain't, Is not
Akon: Acorn
Allegetter: Alligator
At(Atter): After

Baig: Beg, Begged
Bay: Bare
Bidout: Without
Bittle: Victuals
Boad: Board
Bret: Breath
Breeze: Breathe
Bresh: Brush
Bruk: Broke, Broken
Brukwus: Breakfast
Buh: Brother (A salutation)
Bushish: Bushes
Bum-by: By and by
Bun: Burn, Burnt

Ca': Can't
Cay: Because
Cayjon: Occasion, Need
Ceppin: Except
Cham: Charm
Chook: Put, Throw
Compersation: Conversation
Cote: Court
Cubbitch: Covet, Curvette
Curtschey: Curtsey
Cuse: Accuse

Darsh: Dart
Day clean: Full daylight
Debble: Devil
Dey: They, there, is
Dey-dey: There
Dey'd: They would
Diddy: Here
Dizac: Exact
Dizacly: Exactly

Done: Tired out, Done
Dry Drought: Drought
Wet Drought: Excessive rains
Dunk'yer: Don't care

E: He, She, They, It, etc.
Ear: Air
Eastiddy: Yesterday
Eben: Even
Ebnin: Evening (Any time after noon)
Ent (Ain): Is not, Ain't
En: And
Entell: Until
Enfer: Ain't for, Not to
Entty: Isn't it
Exwansus: Advantage

Farrer: Father (Only used for God)

Faitful: Faithful
Faid: Afraid
Fay: Fair, Fairly
Fiah: Fire
Fiel: Field
Fasis: Fastest
Fitten: Fit (for)
Ain fitten: Worthless
Flatfoam: Platform
Fo: Before
Fo day: Before day
Fuhm: From
Fus: First
Fus Day: Dawn
Fus Da-a-k: Twilight
Fus Off: Beginning
Fuhebbber: Forever

Gen: Again, Against
Gedder: Gather
Gelt: Girth (to saddle)
Gie: Give
Giddish: Giddy
Goad: Gourd
Great Peace: An ejaculation

GLOSSARY

Greyshish: Gracious
Gwine: Going

Ha: Have, Has
Han: Hand
Hay: Hair
Hi'se: Hoist, Hoisted
Huccome: How come
Hut: Hurt

Jah: Jar, Jarred
Jook: To jest, To fool
Jook (Joug): Punch or poke

Kin: Can

Le': Let
Les: Let's
Libber: Liver
Longes: Longest
Lukka: Like, Same as

Ma: mother
Ma'sheen Marsh Hen
Mannus: Manners
Meet: Found, Came upon
Medjur: Measure
Mine: Mind
Minimit: Minuet
Miration: Big talk, Much ado
Mo-ober-gen: Moreover

Needer: Neither
Niece: Nieces or Nephews
Nighst: Nigh, Near
Noshril: Nostril
Nummer: Only, Except
Nuse: Use, Used
Nwelcome: Welcome
Nwillin: Willing
Nyam: To chew
Nyung: Young

Oasmen: Oarsmen
Onkibber: Uncover
On'neet: Underneath

Pa: Father
Panch: To pant
Pick e box: Play Guitar, Banjo
Pick pianner: Play piano
Pim-pim walk: Mincing steps
Pledjur: Pleasure
Po: Poor, Thin
Poach: Porch
Projec: Project, Purpose
(Also play or potter round)
Pruppus: Purpose
P'yo: Pure
Puppay: Prepared

Qua'il: Quarrel
Quile: Coil
Quire: Enquire

Range: Reins (To bridle)
Res: To rest, The rest

San: Sand
Scusin: Except, Only
Sage: Sedge grass
Sat'dy: Saturday
Scribe: Describe
Shay: Share
Shet: Shut
Shum: See, Saw (him, it, etc.)
Shut: Shirt
Sischa: Such a
Sno: Snore
Sonebber: Soever
Spicion: Suspicion, Suspect
Spurrer: Spur, Spurs
Squa'il: Squirrel
Stan: Looks, Is
Stid: Instead
Stidur: Instead of
Sto: Store

GLOSSARY

Stinctially: Distinctly
Study: Think, Thinking
Suh: Sister (A salutation)
Sukka: Same (as)
Sukkle: Circle
Summuch: So much, A lot

Ta: Tar
Tarrer: The other, Others
Tas: Task (A days work; one-
fourth acre)

Taught: Thought
Tay: Tear
Teck: Protect
Teet: Teeth
Tek: Take
Tell: Until
Tief: Thief, Stole
Tippety: Antipathy
Trablin: Traveling
Troo: Through, Because of
Trus: Trust
Trute: Truth
Tuh: To
Tuhmorrer: Tomorrow
Tummuch: Too much, A quantity
Tun: Turn, A load
Turgedder: Together
Turrecly: Directly, Shortly
Tursh: Tusk
Tutter: Potatoes

Ur: Of
Stidur: Instead of

Wa': Want
Wenture: Venture
Wet Drought: Excessive rains
Wey: Wear
Whey: Where
Whuf fuh: What for, Why
Wice: Voice
Wis: Which
Wud: Word
Wut: Worth

Ain Wut: Worthless

Yam: Arm
Yays: Ears, Ear
Yedder: Others, Other
Yedder res: All others
Yeddy: Hear, Heard
Yie: Eye
Yobs: Herbs
Younna: you, plural
Yut: Earth

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4. How Buh Buzzut Lost De Fedder on E Head
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1. Buh Rabbit Fools B'Olifaum
and Buh Whale
2. The Tar Baby
3. Sneak Een E Buzzom

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